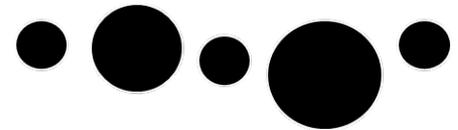
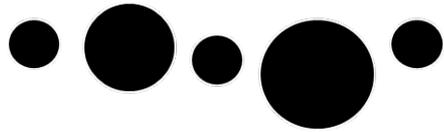




Welcome to **Online Office Hours!**

We'll get started at 2PM ET





## Library of Congress Online Office Hours

Welcome! We're glad you're here! Use the chat box to introduce yourselves. Let us know:

- **Your first name**
- **Where you're joining us from**
- **Grade level(s) and subject(s) you teach**

**NLS**

**NATIONAL  
LIBRARY SERVICE  
FOR THE BLIND  
AND PRINT DISABLED  
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

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**National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS)** is a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness, or a physical disability that prevents them from reading or holding the printed page.

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Through a national network of cooperating libraries, NLS offers books and magazines the way you want them: in braille or audio formats, mailed to your door for free, or instantly downloadable.

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# NLS Patrons

## Who Does NLS Serve?

- Blind
- Visually Impaired
- Physical Limitation or Disability
- Reading Disability from Organic Dysfunction, such as Dyslexia



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A law was passed in 1931 to create a library services program to serve blind adults. The first audio materials were produced on a phonograph, a machine with cylinders that could record and reproduce sound.





In the late 1930's, NLS began using record albums that could play 33 minutes of recorded books.





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In 1952, the law was changed to include service for blind children and, in 1966, extended to people with physical disabilities.

In 1980, NLS began to use cassette tapes instead of record albums.





In 2007, we transitioned into digital audio books with the Digital Talking Book Machine.





The player has large, high contrast, tactile buttons and braille to navigate a book on cartridge. Cartridges are sent by mail in an easy to open box with a reversible card with addresses of the patron and the library for easy book returns.



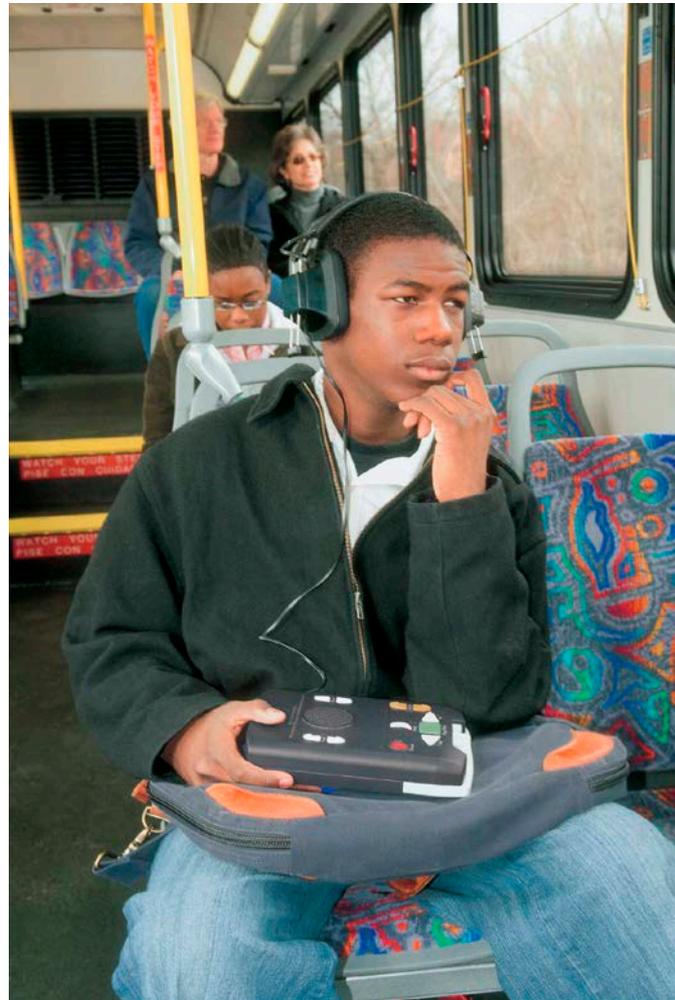


Buttons also announce their functions audibly when pressed.  
Audio and braille direction for the talking-book machine are included when it is sent to the patron.





This machine is durable and easy to carry wherever you go.



Because it is simple, anyone from small children to elderly adults can use it.



NLS also provides reading materials in braille.



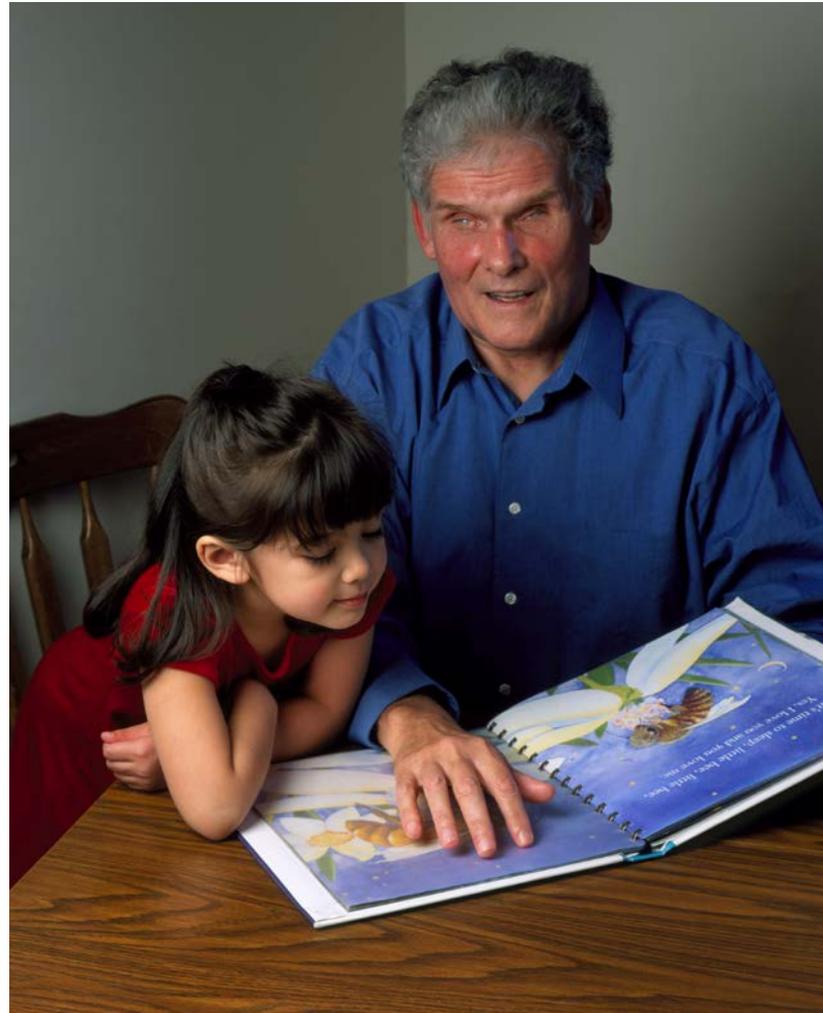


An exciting item we have in our collections is our print-braille books, which are children's picture books with clear braille overlay pages.





They were created so that a braille reader—be it a student, parent, or grandparent—can read along with their sighted classmates or family.

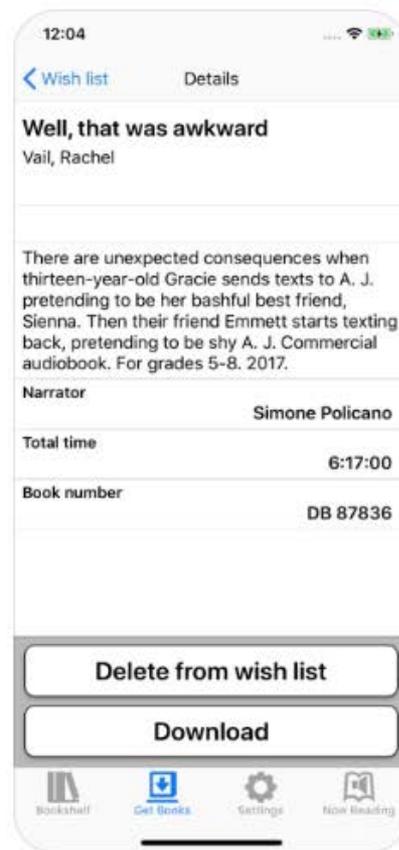
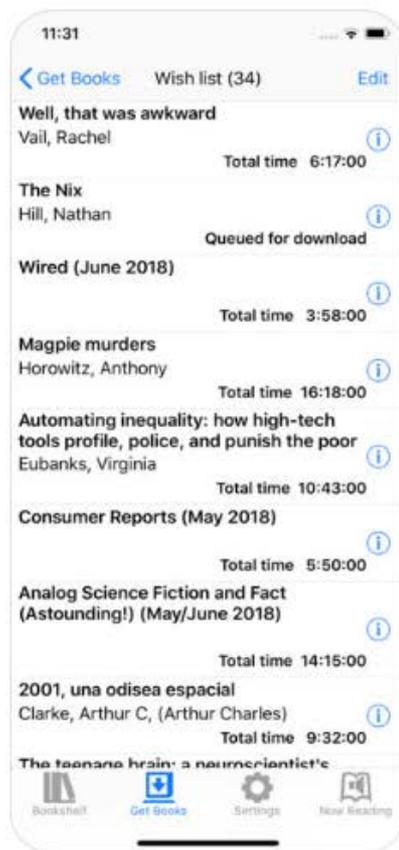


# Braille and Audio Reading Download & BARD Mobile App



For even greater mobility, NLS created the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) in 2009.

Patrons can download their favorite books and magazines in braille and audio formats to a smart device using BARD.





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# The NLS Catalog has over 300,000 titles available!

*Let's see if we have a book you're reading.*

Author: Adams, Richard, 1920-  
Title: Watership down / Richard Adams. [braille]  
Published: Washington, D.C. : Library of Congress, National  
Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,  
1997. (Associated Services for the Blind, transcribing  
agency. Associated Services for the Blind, distributor)  
Book Number: BR 10851  
Access: Volume 1.  
Location: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/br.10851v01>  
Access: Volume 2.  
Location: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/br.10851v02>  
Access: Volume 3.  
Location: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/br.10851v03>  
Access: Volume 4.  
Location: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/br.10851v04>

[More on this record](#)

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Author: Adams, Richard, 1920-  
Title: Watership down [sound recording] / Richard George  
Adams.  
Published: Washington, D.C. : National Library Service for  
the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress,  
2007.  
Book Number: DB 35730 (May be available only for download)  
Access: Downloadable talking book.  
Location: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.35730>

[More on this record](#)

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# Currency Reader & Apps



NLS works with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to distribute free currency readers and apps to people with visual impairments.



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# NLS

**NATIONAL  
LIBRARY SERVICE  
FOR THE BLIND  
AND PRINT DISABLED  
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**



**Thank you!**

**Questions? Post them in the chat box!**

